Rough Field Notes- Misc.

49

Brush/Graph

stantly growing up; he looked only at arrow above. Finally he got to heaven, entering through a hole in the floor. He laid his bow out as a ladder, & crawled to heaven on the bow. It was a country without trees, a fine level plain. He saw a well-worn path there, a run-way but he did not know what animal made it. It was late evening, & he set a snare(1), of the bow-string in the run-way. Early next morning he heard a low rumble and in the distance he saw the sun coming. Then he realised that he had set his snare in the path of the sun, but thought his rope would be broken. However it caught the sun & tyd: onto it said, "How did this!" He looked around, but could see no-thing & K did not answer. Soon mice ran out to K, "Did you do this; it is bad & mistaken work, you must rectify it" K said, "How". The mice said, "Paint us all over with your paint & we will go in & cut the string. He painted them, but they failed. They returned saying "You have failed to paint us all over, paint our eyes & asses". He did so, they cut the rope & sun went a-

§23

① sḵamisk

② stiɬq

way fast. Then mice said, "never come back here, no people ever come, it is a bad place." I agreed, said the bow string & climbed down the tree, which had remained, & which ever grew shorter as he went down. So reached boy & his sister & never returned. His sister did not know where he had been, & was weeping, supposing him dead. She said "I thought you were dead." He said, "I was very nearly so I have been to heaven though I did not know it." He told her how he had shot arrow up, how it had stuck, how he had climbed on growing tree, had reached heaven and shared sun with roost of the fork stings. She again asked him not to go off on any more dangerous trips. He would to go hunting mallard ducks on a lake, & she insisted on accompanying him. She stayed on the beach, while he stripped & dived in, hunting mallards, but did not go far from beach. Then his legs were seized by a huge fish (1). He was not at once swallowed, and ended to sister to throw (2) quickly, a long rope of caribou skin, carried by all Indian women. She threw one end which he tied

825

round his body, the other end he told her to tie to a tree. This she did. Then he told her to throw him his stone knife, with which he killed the fish. Inside they found bones of eaten people. K was now really afraid, specially as his sister pointed out that but for her he would have been killed. She too was scared, & this time he really did abandon hunting.

827

① snu· & t ƀwulaxlz s. ~

② mai·ai-ƀila or alkunlan
stay man

# Perhaps 100 years after the first people came down there was an old woman remaining in Nunivak. She was old, so old that she was hardly human, face hung down in great folds, same for body skin & breasts, she was a hag. This woman the sacrificer (?) kept alive by his power long after her natural course had run. One day the old woman said to A. "I want to go down below to pay a visit to my friends on earth". He agreed. A rope appeared for her & she went down, arriving on the other side of Kinegnit River, across from the village. She called out, & 4 men heard her. They went across, brought her back to their house. They they told everybody that they had found a scarcely human old woman, the first of this kind we have ever seen. All people came to see, their first experience of such. Soon the four brothers went off to hunt goats, leaving behind their sister who was first time in her menses. Now a woman who first washes pupik is unclean, she must stay in a corner of the house, never pass in front

829

① ~~tsɛ sʌtɛ tsɪ~~ s stoʊ-hɪ m

② blu ɛl sɪ kan aɪs

Soon after the first people came down, Raven said to deer (1), let us go together to some place & let us open our respective ancestral stores (2), who are our respective fathers and mothers. ~~He said~~ Raven said, "Let us go to a place over yonder on the mountain". Deer at first unwilling, but finally followed him to the brink of a canyon, where they sat down. Raven said, "all right, start your story". "No, you start" said deer, "I have no story". So raven started, & sang, "Deer is an ugly fellow, he has no meat on his shins, & has a long nose" Deer was angry & replied by singing of raven's ugly feet & bill. Raven thereupon shoved him over the cliff & he fell down & was killed. Raven flew around cawing cheerfully & began to eat the grease from deer's bottom. He flew away, ~~saying this~~, but could not refrain from mocking a stump (3) which was standing near, "You have no food, as I have!" When raven away the stump fell down of its own power, covering the deer. Raven asked it to move, but it refused, hiding all the deer

839

① tòpiwàc

② sɔnht = mucous blown from nose. The man blew his nose into the canoe, & asked it if he knew who had slain his child. The sɔnht said it was the wolves.

At the time when people had recently come down & were = animal, ½ people, a deer with its young son (1), a fawn, went to get fire-wood at Echo Harbour. The father went ashore, leaving son in canoe. Presently the son saw 4 people come along, 4 men & 1 woman, they were wolves. They said to the boy, "It would be a good time for all of us if we ate you!" After a time the father returned & asked if son had seen anyone. "Yes, 4 & 1." Did they say anything. "Yes, they wanted to eat me!" "Oh, they are bad people, the whistles in their noses are like ass-holes". The wolf-people were about 200 yards away by this time, & he heard what was said. She told her companions that the man deer was swearing at them, & they got their canoe & returned in it. The deer had meanwhile gone into the wood for more wood, & the wolves ate the son, leaving only a little fur in canoe. When deer returned he was grief-stricken & went home. The wolves then went for a visit to the deer's house. The deer was very grieved when he saw them, but many visitors used